road-wise information on road works taken up by the States under the programme. The Ministry of Rural Development has approved a total of 290 road works over a length of 1811.87 kms. at a cost of Rs. 360.83 crore, proposed by Uttaranchal upto November, 2005.

(b) Against total allocation of Rs. 395.00 crore to Uttaranchal upto 2005-06 for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, an amount of Rs. 201.04 crore has been released to the State. The State has so far reported expenditure of Rs. 129.92 crore.

Implementation of NREGS

†1627. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to implement the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in an effective manner;

(b) whether assistance would also be sought from Non-Governmental Organisations for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been notified on 7.9.2005. Under the Act, Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes are to be formulated by the State Governments. The State Governments have been instructed to formulate Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes under the Act. Wide ranging consultations have been held with State Governments, Non-Governmental Organisations, experts and eminent people with a view to framing the guidelines for the effective implementation of the Act. Under the Act, implementing agency also includes non-governmental organizations authorized by the Central Government or the State Government to undertake the implementation of any work taken up under a Scheme.

Non-performance of States on drinking water supply

1628. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether due to non-performance of some States on drinking water supply for specific habitations, Government propose to extend the deadline earlier set for 2009 for total implementation of Safe Drinking Water Mission under Bharat Nirman Yojana;

(b) whether State authorities and implementing agencies have been found lacking in site selection as well as providing for proper water harvesting mechanisms for recharge of sources; and

(c) despite Government hiking the budget allocation to the ARWASP to Rs. 4050 crores whether the States are citing fund scarcity as reasons for non-implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government of India has been extending technical and scientific assistance like Hydro-geo-morphological maps, satellite imageries etc. to State Governments for ground water surveys and source investigation. State level Scientific Source finding Committees with representatives, *inter-alia*, from GOI Scientific organizations like Central Ground Water Board, National Remote Sensing Agency etc. ensure close monitoring of source investigation and site selection activities.

(c) Under Bharat Nirman, it is envisaged to cover the remaining uncovered habitations and address the problems of slippage of already covered habitations and water quality with adequate funds to meet the objectives in a period of four years (2005-06 to 2008-09).

Operation of NREGS

1629. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been in operation in 150 districts of the country;

(b) if so, the names of these States and Districts;

(c) the number of beneficiaries in each of the districts and the expenditure incurred on the scheme as on 31st October, 2005; and